



***Substitute House Bill No. 5059***

***Public Act No. 10-84***

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSORS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) (a) Any town, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough may, by town or borough meeting vote, or, in those municipalities in which there is no such meeting, by a two-thirds majority of the members of the legislative body thereof, provide for the appointment of one or more but not more than five assessors. Any such municipality may establish the qualifications and compensation of such assessor or assessors, and may provide for the appointment by the assessor or board of assessors of clerical and other assistance within the limits of the appropriation therefor, provided, if there is more than one assessor, such assessors shall choose one of their number to be chairman of the board of assessors.

(b) Any assessor appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his or her duties by the clerk of the town.

Sec. 2. Section 7-105 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

**Substitute House Bill No. 5059**

Each person [elected or] appointed an assessor or elected or appointed a member of the board of assessment appeals or a collector of town taxes in any town shall be sworn before entering upon the duties of the office to which he has been elected or appointed.

Sec. 3. Section 9-185 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

Unless otherwise provided by special act or charter, [assessors,] members of boards of assessment appeals, selectmen, town clerks, town treasurers, collectors of taxes, constables, registrars of voters, members of boards of education and library directors shall be elected, provided any town may, by ordinance, provide for the appointment, by its chief executive authority, of (1) a constable or constables in lieu of constables to be elected under section 9-200<sub>2</sub> or (2) a town clerk, town treasurer or collector of taxes in lieu of the election of such officers as provided in section 9-189. Unless otherwise provided by special act or charter, all other town officers shall be appointed as provided by law and, if no other provision for their appointment is made by law, then [by] (A) by the chief executive officer of such municipality, [or] (B) where the legislative body is a town meeting, by the board of selectmen, or (C) by such other appointing authority as a town may by ordinance provide, and except that, if a board of finance is established under the provisions of section 7-340, the members thereof shall be elected as provided in section 9-202<sub>2</sub>. [and except that assessors may be elected or appointed under the provisions of section 9-198.] Any town may, by a vote of its legislative body, determine the number of its officers and prescribe the mode by which they shall be voted for at subsequent elections.

Sec. 4. Section 9-199 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

(a) Unless otherwise provided by law, each town shall elect [three

***Substitute House Bill No. 5059***

assessors and] a board of assessment appeals consisting of three members and shall elect such officers at regular municipal elections for terms of four years. Such [assessors and] members of the board of assessment appeals shall hold office for the term for which they are elected and until their successors are elected and have qualified. When the number of [assessors or the number of] members of the board of assessment appeals to be elected by any town is even, no person shall vote for more than one-half the number, and when the number to be elected is odd, no person shall vote for more than a bare majority of the number, provided the legislative body of any town may provide that the electors of such town vote for the full number of [assessors or] members to be elected thereat, any provision of the special acts to the contrary notwithstanding. The candidates in number sufficient to fill such offices who have the highest number of votes shall be elected. Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the method of rotation of [assessors or] members of a board of assessment appeals legally in effect on October 1, 1976.

(b) The legislative body of a municipality or, in the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or a representative town meeting, the board of selectmen may appoint an alternate for each member of the board of assessment appeals. Each alternate member shall be an elector of the municipality. When seated, an alternate member shall have all the powers and duties of a member of the board of assessment appeals.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or of any special act, municipal charter or home rule ordinance, a municipality may, by ordinance, authorize its legislative body to appoint additional members to the board of assessment appeals for any assessment year.

Sec. 5. Section 9-198 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2010*)

***Substitute House Bill No. 5059***